

REMARKS

Claims 11 and 12 have been amended. After entry of the instant amendment Claims 1-21 are pending. A version of the claims with markings to show changes is attached at Exhibit A. For convenience, a clean copy of the pending claims after entry of the instant amendment is attached at Exhibit B. Applicants have made an election of species solely to facilitate examination of the application.

I. THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 11 and 12 have been amended to correct minor errors. Claim 11 has been amended to no longer recite Edg 3. Claim 12 has been amended to recite Edg 3. Support for amended Claims 11 and 12 may be found, for example, in the specification at page 17, lines 17 to 26.

II. ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Election/Restriction Requirement mailed September 6, 2002, Applicants hereby elect species Edg 1/3(i2i3ct) to facilitate prosecution on the merits. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11 (as amended), 12 (as amended), and 13-21 read on the elected species. Applicants understand their election of species is being made solely to facilitate examination of the application and that they are entitled to consideration of additional species upon allowance of a generic claim.


CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the claims of the instant application meet all of the conditions for patentability and are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early indication of the same is respectfully requested.

A Petition for an Extension of Time accompanies this request. Applicants believe no other fee is due in connection with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge all required fees, fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 and all required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment, to Pennie & Edmonds LLP U.S. Deposit Account No. 16-1150 (Order No. 10608-013-999).

Respectfully submitted,

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EXHIBIT A

Claim Amendment: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

What is claimed is:

1. A chimeric Edg receptor comprising:
 - a) an extracellular domain of a first Edg receptor;
 - b) a transmembrane domain of the first Edg receptor, wherein the transmembrane domain is operably linked to the extracellular domain; and
 - c) a chimeric intracellular domain comprising an intracellular strand of a second Edg receptor, wherein the chimeric intracellular domain is operably linked to the transmembrane domain.
2. The chimeric Edg receptor of Claim 1 wherein the chimeric intracellular domain further comprises two strands of the first Edg receptor.
3. The chimeric Edg receptor of Claim 1 wherein the chimeric intracellular domain further comprises three strands of the first Edg receptor.
4. The chimeric Edg receptor of Claim 1 wherein the chimeric intracellular domain comprises two strands of the second Edg receptor.
5. The chimeric Edg receptor of Claim 1 wherein the chimeric intracellular domain comprises three strands of the second Edg receptor.
6. The chimeric Edg receptor of Claim 1 wherein the chimeric intracellular domain comprises four strands of the second Edg receptor.

7. The chimeric Edg receptor of Claim 1 wherein the chimeric intracellular domain comprises first intracellular loop or second intracellular loop of the second Edg receptor.
8. The chimeric Edg receptor of Claim 1 wherein the chimeric intracellular domain comprises first intracellular loop and second intracellular loop of the second Edg receptor.
9. The chimeric Edg receptor of Claim 1, wherein the chimeric G protein coupled receptor couples with Gαq.
10. The chimeric Edg receptor of Claim 1 wherein the second Edg receptor couples with Gαq.
11. (Amended) The chimeric Edg receptor of Claim 1 wherein the first Edg receptor is selected from the group consisting of Edg 1, [Edg 3,] Edg 5, Edg 6 and Edg 8.
12. (Amended) The chimeric Edg receptor of Claim 1 wherein the second Edg receptor is selected from the group consisting of Edg 2, Edg 3, Edg 4 and Edg 7.
13. A chimeric Edg receptor selected from the group consisting of Edg1/3(ct), Edg 1/3(i3ct), Edg 1/3(i2i3ct), Edg5/3(i3ct) and Edg8/4(ct).
14. A nucleic acid encoding the chimeric Edg receptor of Claim 1 or 13.
15. A cell comprising the chimeric Edg receptor of Claim 1 or 13.
16. A cell comprising the nucleic acid of Claim 14.
17. A method of screening for compounds that bind an Edg receptor comprising:

a) contacting the chimeric Edg receptor of Claim 1, 11, 12 or 13 with a compound; and

b) detecting binding of the compound to the chimeric Edg receptor thereby identifying a compound that binds the first Edg receptor.

18. A method of screening for compounds that modulate the activity of an Edg receptor comprising:

a) contacting the chimeric Edg receptor of Claim 1, 11, 12 or 13 with a compound; and

b) detecting modulation of the activity of the chimeric Edg receptor relative to the activity of the chimeric Edg receptor in the absence of the compound thereby identifying a compound that modulates the activity of the chimeric Edg receptor.

19. The method of Claim 18 wherein the activity of the chimeric Edg receptor is increased.

20. The method of Claim 18 wherein the activity of the chimeric Edg receptor is decreased.

21. The method of Claim 18 wherein the activity of the chimeric G protein coupled receptor is detected by a calcium mobilization assay.